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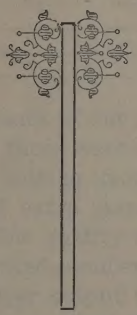
REPORT OF CANNING CLUB WORK

DECEMBER, 1914–DECEMBER, 1915



UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY

REPORT OF CANNING CLUBS IN NORTH CAROLINA

December, 1914, to December, 1915.

Jane S. McKimmon,
State Agent in Home Demonstration Work.

In the past year in North Carolina there were 37 counties doing organized Canning Club work with a total enrollment of 2,914. This makes an increase over last year of 5 counties and 1,414 members. These club girls are enrolled in 200 clubs with 173 supervisors. Each county has a chief agent; and where the work has been widely organized, sub-agents are employed to supervise canning during the season and see that the required standard is maintained. In Sampson County there is a club in each of its 18 townships and every club has a supervisor.

One hundred per cent of the 37 counties organized in home demonstration work have sent in their annual reports, and the following has been recorded by club members:

Total number products in tin and glass	633,447
Value of products sold fresh and used at home	$6,025.61
Total value of products	104,241.89
Total cost of products	28,985.46
Total profit	75,256.43
Average cost per member	15.37
Average profit per member	39.90

During the first two years of our organization almost our sole output was tomatoes, as these were easily sterilized and in great demand. Today we are putting upon the market not only tomatoes but string beans of extra standard quality, soup mixture, peaches, berries, and a fine quality of preserves and jams of all kinds. The sale of a limited number of these products last year seemed to warrant a larger output this season, and the venture has been justified in the excellent market we have already obtained. Even at this early date there is scarcely a can of soup mixture to be had, and string beans and preserves are going rapidly at good prices.

This fall we are putting into operation in several counties a co-operative marketing plan whereby the girls of each club will be able to make all the arrangements for the sale of their own products. Our slogan is "Sell in your own community, your own

county, your own State!" It is costly to ship in less than carload lots, and there is an excellent market to be found at home, as our 1914 and 1915 sales have already shown.

The Moore County clubs made arrangements last spring to sell everything they produced to the county grocers, these grocers and the Sand Hill Board of Trade standing behind the girls' organization and making them feel that they had an assured market. In this county 22 girls are going to school in part or wholly through their profits in canning.

Anson is the banner county of the State this year:

Total number products in tin	42,065
Total number products in glass	9,477
Value of products sold fresh	$626.09
Total value of products	9,709.14
Total cost of products	2,523.54
Total profit	7,185.60

One hundred per cent of the girls enrolled in this county reported work accomplished. The profit made by her 10 most successful members aggregated $1,047.21. The best individual record amongst the women members was made by Mrs. J. T. Williams, of Wadesboro, R. F. D., who cleared on her season's work $169.51, most of her profit coming from fancy preserves, an industry that many of our rural women have taken to most kindly.

Alamance and Anson for the first time filled orders this season for colleges and institutions, putting their products in No. 10 (gallon) cans; and they did it so successfully that we are planning to take five of the older counties next year and have them can almost exclusively for this growing part of our custom.

Eight Anson girls are at school through the financial help and the inspiration which club work has given them. In fact, there are 16 counties, including Moore and Anson, which report 109 girls at school paying their tuition wholly or in part from their profits in canning.

We have three first-year counties that have done quite remarkable work this year. Lee produced, through its 57 club members, 16,519 containers (tin and glass). Wayne, with 42 members reporting, has 13,087 containers (tin and glass). Gaston, 26 members reporting, has 4,660 containers (tin), and by its women demonstrators who attended club meetings and received instruction in canning, 26,000 tins.

The ten best records made by club girls in the State of North Carolina in 1915 are as follows:

		Profit.
1.	Miss Letha Haywood, Rockingham, Richmond Co.	$183.80
2.	Miss Lina Lillian Little, Morven, Anson Co.	140.00
3.	Miss Olive Lockhart, Polkton, Anson Co.	138.00
4.	Miss Bettie Vann Tapscott, Burlington, Alamance Co.	129.42
5.	Miss Helen Jones, Holly Springs, Wake Co.	118.40
6.	Miss Bettie Ratcliff, Wadesboro, Anson Co.	114.40
7.	Miss Nettie Tice, Wadesboro, Anson Co.	109.32
8.	Miss Minnie Morrow, Bessemer City, Gaston Co.	91.50
9.	Miss Nellie Stroupe, Polkton, Anson Co.	88.40
10.	Miss Christine Whitley, Wendell, Wake Co.	82.26
	Total	$1,195.50

An excellent report made with first-year girls is that sent in by Mrs. W. T. Appel, of Auburn, a Wake County sub-agent. Mrs. Appel has two clubs with a combined enrollment of 25 members:

Number of containers in glass	1,328
Number of containers in tin	5,681
Number barrels cucumbers in brine	3
Value of products sold fresh	$583.49
Total value of products	1,483.59

Mrs. Appel approached the merchants in the towns around her in the spring and secured the sale of all her clubs' canned products for fall delivery.

Out of 37 counties organized four of them—Anson, Madison, Franklin and Rowan—record 100 per cent of all enrolled members sending in reports of the year's work. Iredell records 97 per cent reporting and Gaston 93 1-3 per cent.

At the State Fair 29 counties sent exhibits. These shipments were required of each county and consisted of 40 glass containers. The 1,000 tin cans displayed were supplied by Wake County. The exhibits were most satisfactory, every county showing its training in commercial packing. One of the four-year girls from Granville County made a beautiful exhibit of one hundred 12-ounce glass jars commercially packed with fruits, jams, jellies, and pickles. These will be used as samples to be sent to grocers for next year's orders. We are using the State Fair exhibit as a school of instruction for agents and their girls, as we think there could be found no better way of comparing and noting differences in packs. Thirty-two agents chaperoning seventy-nine girls came to Raleigh in October and spent from one to two days at the fair studying packs and standards.

To judge the women's exhibits and to explain reasons for giving awards, we have sent out our trained women to 18 county and 8 community fairs held in the State.

We are not finding it difficult to secure funds from the counties to match appropriations made from this office, and in 24 or the 45 counties organized for 1916 work sufficient funds have been appropriated not only to employ the number of sub-agents needed but to secure a whole-time agent to supervise home demonstration work the year around.

Each agent is forming home demonstration clubs for the women of the county in which cooking, the preparation of foods, sanitation, cooperative marketing of farm products and winter gardening are all eagerly studied.

Miss Minnie L. Jamison, Director of the Home Economics Department of the State Normal College at Greensboro, has been appointed assistant in home demonstration work. Taking up her work the first part of October, she has been busily planning courses for the preparation and cooking of foods in the home. Miss Jamison has visited seven counties, observing conditions and arranging programs of winter work.

We are working out definite outlines for home demonstration work as reports come in from counties as to the efficacy of plans already set in motion. Guilford, Alamance, Sampson and Anson have many fine home betterment plans which they have operated satisfactorily in the past year.

During the past four months, which have been organizing months, not only the State Agent but six of our well trained County Agents have been visiting the county boards to present the work, and as a result practically $26,000 has been appropriated by the counties in addition to appropriations from state and federal sources to promote home demonstration work in North Carolina.

Counties	Girls Reporting	Tins & Glass	Sold Fresh & Used at Home	Money Value	Cost	Profit
Alamance	58	36,674	$172.15	$8,207.15	$1,760.46	$6,446.69
Anson	120	51,542	626.09	9,709.14	2,523.54	7,185.60
Bertie	17	2,749	108.70	661,20	186.30	474.90
Buncombe	36	11,182	130.61	1,857.06	570.78	1,286.28
Cherokee	14	2,881	5.95	450.30	101.09	349.21
Cleveland	60	12,315	80.61	1,541.88	450.00	1,091.88
Craven	15	7,114	57.26	920.66	304.83	615.83
Cumberland	21	11,307	66.85	3,120.50	748.69	2,371.81
Davidson	36	11,795	24.20	2,295.30	567.46	1,727.84
Durham	52	44,108	569.54	3,458.09	782.57	2,675.52
Edgecombe	93	22,995	424.08	4,300.18	1,468.90	2,831.28
Forsyth	16	5,700	62.88	1,287.68	356.40	931.28
Franklin	28	11,596	111.10	1,941.73	596.73	1,345.00
Gaston	26	4,660	172.76	686.02	93.33	592.69
Granville	42	20,263	70.36	3,217.31	1,103.91	2,113.40
Greene	10	2,034	31.00	259.40	81.36	178.04
Guilford	81	30,726	431.35	4,017.83	1,295.89	2,721.94
Iredell	97	22,860	78.06	4,058.90	1,053.35	3,005.55
Johnston	40	9,441	122.59	1,125.99	337.64	788.35
Lee	57	16,519	157.77	2,210.92	740.72	1,470.20
Madison	42	6,900	75.40	1,946.11	406.05	1,540.06
Mecklenburg	75	7,858	558.91	2,071.78	407.15	1,664.63
Moore	67	41,984	300.19	5,848.69	1,737.80	4,110.89
Northampton	7	1,449	11.75	178.70	61.30	117.40
Orange	9	560	60.00	124.00	22.40	101.60
Pasquotank	20	4,033	85.73	829.91	220.16	609.75
Pender	15	18,017	.....	4,329.50	1,001.02	3,328.48
Randolph	30	5,862	24.26	833.11	265.03	568.08
Richmond	48	23,609	68.47	3,148.24	898.21	2,250.03
Rowan	14	2,006	74.30	463.15	95.22	367.93
Sampson	173	48,605	129.53	8,929.91	2,338.26	6,591.65
Union	38	9,422	95.20	1,943.66	472.38	1,471.28
Vance	32	12,230	60.50	1,796.60	547.84	1,248.76
Wake	135	42,269	653.55	8,156.75	2,470.84	5,685.91
Warren	20	7,393	83.26	1,222.06	335.72	886.34
Wayne	42	12,849	93.38	1,887.71	584.53	1,303.18
Wilkes	200	49,940	156.27	5,204.77	1,997.60	3,207.17
Total	1,886	663,447	$6,025.61	$104,241.89	$28,985.46	$75,256.43

The cost stated is exclusive of girls' labor. It was almost impossible to get anything like a correct estimate of the time consumed in canning and gardening.

Any apparent difference noted in number of containers reported and profit will be the difference in the value of fancy packs in glass and the less expensive packs in tin.